

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING FREDNA MAHAFFEY

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Fredna Mahaffey.

Fredna Barton Mahaffey was born on July 18, 1929, in Highland Park (Dallas), Texas. After graduating from Highland Park High School, she attended SMU where she became a member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority. After transferring to the University of Wisconsin in Madison she graduated with a BA in Spanish while also becoming President of the local Pi Beta Phi chapter.

In 1953, Fredna was very blessed to have gone on an afternoon blind date where she met her future husband John B. Mahaffey of Springfield, Missouri. Their date was to a football game between two arch rivals, the Texas Longhorns and the Oklahoma Sooners. 'Freddie' as John called her had another date with another suitor scheduled for that evening but she was so taken with John she cancelled the later date. John and Fredna got married October 29, 1954, in Dallas. After their nuptials Fredna moved to Springfield in southwest Missouri. Their children, Robert and Beth, grew up with the political commitment of their parents.

Fredna campaigned for Richard Nixon in 1960 and took her daughter to a Nixon rally at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds. Throughout the 1964 presidential campaign, her children remember that she wore a gold elephant pin with black horn-rimmed glasses in support of Barry Goldwater. I didn't wear an elephant pin but 1964 was the first campaign I worked on as a nine year old in Springfield. I would ride my bicycle all over the neighborhood nailing 'Goldwater For President' placards to telephone poles. Fredna's father was a physician who had the first EKG machine in Dallas, and after he read "A Texan Looks at Lyndon" published in March 1964 he shared it with Fredna.

In the mid-1960's, she worked tirelessly for then-State Senator Jack Curtis' re-election, whose district lines had changed to include the whole of Greene County. Their phone bank was 3 rotary-dial telephones in the basement of Jack and Helen Curtis' home in Springfield with volunteers fueled by Helen's delicious brownies.

Fredna was a Greene County, Missouri, GOP Committeewoman and local political organizer for many years, back in the day when all her voter records were on handwritten index cards.

Fredna and John were instrumental in Southwest Missouri in the Republicans rise in Missouri including the election of Jack Danforth to Attorney General in 1968, Kit Bond as State Auditor in 1970, and Kit Bond for Governor in 1972. Over the past 50 years, Fredna supported numerous Federal, state and local candidates and GOP party committees' fundraising campaigns. In 2000 and 2004, Fredna

supported John's efforts as a major national fundraiser for former President George W. Bush. She and John opened their homes on Catalpa and in Highland Springs and hosted or sponsored gatherings for former President George H.W. Bush, former Vice President Dan Quayle, former President George W. Bush, Lynne Cheney, Senator Roy Blunt, Senator Josh Hawley, Governor Mike Parson, Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft, Congresswomen Ann Wagner and Vicky Hartzler, former Senators Jack Danforth, Kit Bond and Jim Talent, and former Lt. Governor Peter Kinder.

In our recently completed election cycle, Fredna, at 93 years old continued to support Republican candidates including myself for Senate along with Eric Schmitt for Senate, Eric Burleson for Congress in Missouri—07 and Erik Aadlund in Colorado—07 (whose father is the former Commanding General at Fort Leonard Wood). Her heart and head has not wavered from the mission of liberty, smaller government and free enterprise instilled in her many years before.

Fredna had 58 years together with John, including in the political arena, until his passing in August 2013. She supported his more than 3 decades of service as a Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army under 5 U.S. Presidents, traveling the world in support of the U.S. Army. The John Mahaffey Museum Complex at Fort Leonard Wood is a testimony to their joint faithfulness to our soldiers, as is their establishing the Operation Promises scholarship at Missouri State University for veterans who were injured in combat after September 11, 2001.

Fredna is most importantly a lifelong Christian, a strong believer in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and a faithful member and supporter of First and Calvary Presbyterian Church in Springfield.

Madam Speaker, Fredna has dedicated her life to so many great causes near to her heart, and I am proud to honor her today.

### RECOGNIZING VIRGINIA "GINNY" BURROUGHS ON HER 102ND BIRTHDAY

#### HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent from my district, Virginia Jewell Rogers Burroughs. Ginny was born on December 19, 1920. As we celebrate her 102 years of life, we think of all the memories and stories that she has and continues to share as a citizen of this great country. Ginny was born and raised in the Trenton, New Jersey area, spending much of her adult life in Pennington, New Jersey. She is a mother and was the devoted wife of her husband, Robert Burroughs who was the CEO and Owner of the Trenton Folding Box Company. Ginny raised 4 children and

is the grandmother to 9 grandchildren and multiple great-grandchildren. Ginny would often split her time between Pennington, New Jersey and Naples, Florida until she retired at Holland Village where she actively engages in the community beyond bingo and canasta. Ginny is a supportive voice in the Holland Village Community and continues to care for others by making sure they have their meals and welcomes visitors to her dining room table. Now as she has turned 102 years young, I am proud to recognize and celebrate Virginia Jewell Rogers Burroughs as an exceptional citizen from my district. We are incredibly grateful for the positive impact Ginny has had throughout her life and the countless people she has touched through her kindness, and we wish Ginny countless blessings as she continues to be a voice for her community.

### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF GARY YANDURA

#### HON. LUCY MCBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the retirement of Gary Yandura, Chief Emeritus of the Brookhaven Police Department. For 40 years, Chief Emeritus Yandura has served with distinction as a law enforcement officer and a leader in community policing.

Chief Emeritus Yandura began his career in policing in Lake Forest, Illinois, where he served for 24 years before retiring as deputy chief. Here in Georgia, he served as chief of police in Hiram and College Park. In College Park, he was credited with reducing crime by 30 percent during his first four years as police chief. Following a nationwide search, he was appointed the first chief of police for the newly incorporated city of Brookhaven in April of 2013. For the last decade, Chief Emeritus Yandura has put Brookhaven on the map as one of the most innovative and forward-thinking police departments in the country.

During Chief Emeritus Yandura's tenure, he has made significant contributions in law enforcement, criminal justice, and mental health. Through initiatives like the Brookhaven Police Transparency Project, the Mental Health Co-Responder Program, and the innovative use of drones in police work, Brookhaven's Police Department has put an emphasis on prioritizing safety and building trust in the community. Because of these initiatives, the Brookhaven Police Department is routinely invited by law enforcement agencies from across the country to share their work so that more communities in America can benefit from the wisdom of the standards and practices that have been fostered by Chief Emeritus Yandura.

Over the last 4 years, I have been honored to work in partnership with Chief Emeritus Yandura as I have represented the City of

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